

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A handle engaging device for an object having a handle to be gripped, comprising:

a first panel, a second panel, a third panel and a fourth panel, each formed from a layer of resilient material of a predetermined thickness,

said first panel and said second panel being joined along an inner edge, and being capable of being folded at or about said inner edge to an operational position wherein said first and second panels define a first slot there between;

said third panel and said fourth panel being joined along an inner edge, and being capable of being folded at or about said inner edge to an operational position wherein said third and fourth panels define a second slot therebetween;

wherein said first and second slots are adapted to receive a handle on an object therein; and

wherein said second panel and said third panel are joined together.

2. A handle engaging device as recited in Claim 1, wherein said second panel and said third panel are joined at an abutting edge of a single layer of resilient material, and said second and third panels are folded at or about said abutting edge into a substantially mutually parallel orientation.

3. A handle engaging device as recited in Claim 2 wherein predetermined sections of said second and third panels extending from said abutting edge are fastened together in abutting relation.

4. A handle engaging device as recited in Claim 3 wherein said predetermined sections are fastened together using adhesive tape.
5. A handle engaging device as recited in Claim 4, wherein said adhesive comprises a double-sided adhesive tape.
6. A handle engaging device as recited in Claim 1 wherein said second panel and said third panel are releaseably fastened to one another.
7. A handle engaging device as recited in Claim 6 wherein said second panel and said third panel are releasably fastened by a pressure sensitive adhesive provided on either said first or said second panel.
8. A handle engaging device as recited in Claim 6 wherein said second and said third panel are releaseably fastened by hook-and-loop fasteners.
9. A handle engaging device for an object having a handle to be gripped comprising:
 - a first panel and a second panel formed from a layer of resilient material of a predetermined thickness, said first and second panels abutting each other at an inner long-edge of each panel, and each having an outer short edge and two side edges defining a shape of the panel,
 - said first and second panels being capable of being folded at or about said abutting inner long edges to an operational position wherein said first and second panels have inner facing surfaces and outer exposed surfaces,
 - said first panel and said second panel being so constructed and arranged to capture handles of a bag therebetween when said first and second panels are folded into said operational position ;

said device further having a thumb brace surface formed by side edges of each of said first and second panels, wherein at least one of said first panel and said second panel is adapted to be removably secured to a first or second panel of another handle engaging device.

10. A handle engaging device as set forth in Claim 9 wherein an outer exposed surface of said at least one of said first panel and said second panel has a fastener device positioned thereon.

11. A handle engaging device as set forth in Claim 10 wherein said fastener device is either a section of hook material or a section of loop material of the type used in hook-and-loop fasteners.

12. A handle engaging device as set forth in Claim 10 wherein said fastener device comprises a pressure sensitive adhesive applied to said at least one first or second panel.

13. A device as recited in Claim 9, wherein at least one outer exposed surface has indicia disposed thereon.

14. A device as recited in Claim 9, wherein said device has fastening means disposed on at least one panel, on an inner facing surface thereof, said fastening means being positioned to fasten said first panel to said second panel.